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FROM: - ROM: Declassified in Part - Sanitize	·

CIA-RDP78-03153A001800030035-4

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT:

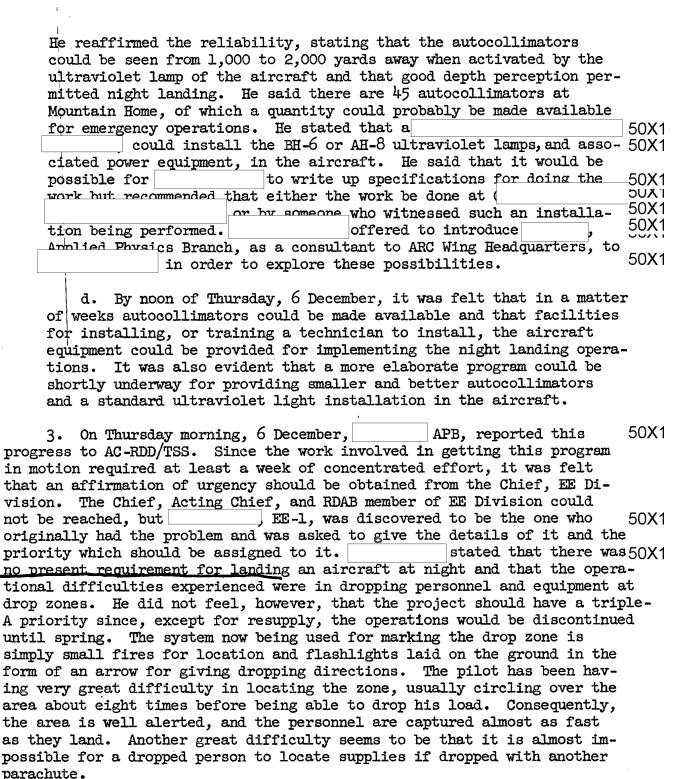
Field Marking Equipment (Drop Zone and Night Landing) (RDP-60)

- 1. Abstract This memorandum explains what transpired as a result of the EE requirement for adequate drop zone marking equipment, placed with RDD on 4 December 1951. It points out some deficiencies in the procedure of getting operational problems from the operating people to RDD.
- 2. On Tuesday, 4 December 1951,

 tive, met with the undersigned and posed the following current operational problem: Personnel losses have been severe in operations involving the night landing of aircraft for delivery of personnel and equipment: bonfires and AN/URC-4 transceivers are used in marking the zone.

 was informed of the status of the special ultraviolet landing system utilizing fluorescent autocollimators which has worked satisfactorily in preliminary operational tests. He was also informed that immediate action would be initiated to determine whether or not and when this system could be provided for operational use. The action was initiated that same day in the following
 - a. Acting Chief, RDD/TSS, was informed of the problem and asked whether it could be ascertained that an urgent priority should be assigned to this problem. He could not contact the Chief, EE Division, at the time, but directed that action should be given all possible impetus, since RDD had an established project, approved 10 October 1951, (although not with such a priority) to provide such equipment.
 - b. On Wednesday, 5 December, Procurement, was con- 50X1 tacted and asked to telephone, through a cut-out, to Gordon Enterprises, 5362 North Cahuenga, North Hollywood, California, --a war surplus dealer who had autocollimators on hand on 1 October 1951--to determine whether any autocollimators could be purchased. It was discovered that this dealer had sold and shipped them to England the week of 26 November. The dealer said he thought he could get more. He will call back the week of 17 December.
 - c. ARC Wing Headquarters, who has been closely 50X1 following the Air Force development of the ultraviolet-autocollimator landing system, was contacted on 5 and 6 December to investigate the availability of necessary equipment and the reliability of the system.

He reaffirmed



4. Since the problem of night dropping is radically different from that of night landing, another solution to the problem was required. Mr. proposed the use of an infrared beacon. For this purpose he proposes 50X1 to use a Welshback mantle gasoline lamp, feeling that a storage battery is a very poor way, by comparison, of supplying the energy for the light and that power in the form of gasoline is more readily available.

SECURITY INFORMATION

He will

He will investigate and expedite, if possible, the procurement of these lamps and the necessary infrared filters. Although the ultraviolet system could possibly be of some value in this operation, the aircraft equipment required would probably violate the sterility of the aircraft being used.

5. It seems evident from the foregoing discussion that planners of the operation did not avail themselves of the technical assistance at hand. The original problem, with its actual requirements, was not accurately transmitted through channels. The requirement should have been received by RDD/TSS long before it actually was. A formal request, with a clear indication of the priority which should be assigned, should have come from the Division Chief. It seems apparent that there exists either a lack of education of operational personnel as to the capabilities of RDD or a lack of proper procedure by which operational personnel could effectively get their requirements to RDD.

Applied Physics Branch
Research & Development

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